

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE
AMITE RIVER BASIN DRAINAGE & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Location: 3535 S. Sherwood Forest Blvd., Suite 135, Baton Rouge, LA 70816

April 19, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT DURING ROLL CALL: Edwin Parker, David Hoover, Lionel Bailey, Jack Harris, James Little, Angela Machen, Richard St. Pierre, Don Thompson, Kenneth Welborn

MEMBERS ABSENT: Felicia Lee

VACANT SEAT: Ascension Parish, East Feliciana Parish, St. Helena Parish

ALSO, PRESENT: ARBC Executive Director Dietmar Rietschier, ARBC Executive Secretary Toni Guitrau, ARBC Legal Counsel Larry Bankston

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Parker.
2. Roll Call (see above).
3. Prayer/Pledge of Allegiance.
4. Public Comments on Agenda Items: None
5. Public Hearing – Proposed Administrative Budget of 2022-2023. The floor was open to Public Comments. As there were no public comments the floor was closed to public comments. Parker said the bottom line will remain the same as the last few years at \$386,150. Minor adjustments were made on several line items such as the \$2,000 increase for the annual audit, an annual decrease of over \$5,000 for the telephone, fax and internet due to staff comparing the prices of AT&T vs. EATEL last August. This fiscal year the per diem for commissioners exceeded \$13,000 so for this proposed budget of 2022-2023 there is a \$3,000 increase. There is a 4% salary increase for the Executive Secretary. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Bailey, second by Hoover to adopt the Administrative Budget of 2022-2023, as presented.
6. Minutes
The Board unanimously approved a motion by St. Pierre, second by Bailey to approve the March 2022 regular meeting minutes.
7. Financial Statements
Hoover presented to the Board the March 2022 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Thompson, second by Machen to approve the March 2022 General Fund and CRDC Fund financial statements.
8. Executive Director Report
 - Comite River Diversion Canal Project Report as follows:
 - a. Hwy. 61: 65% completed. KCS RR: Girders getting installed. Segment 1: Advertise in this quarter. Segment 2A: Under construction. McHugh Rd: 42% completed. Segment 4: 40% completed. Real Estate Status: 84 acquired. LA 964: 100% awarded. CMAR LA 67: 100% designs, construction contract executed. CMAR LA 19: 100% designs, construction contract under review for advanced work packages.
 - Amite and Comite River Maintenance: At the ARBC meeting held on March 15, 2022, the Board approved \$40,000 for CSRS to perform a drone flight video of the Comite River and its banks from La Highway 10 in East Feliciana Parish downstream to connect to the fly-over by EBR Parish. Rietschier provided the Board the final proposed contract and an additional \$8,000 is needed. The Board unanimously approved a motion by Hoover, second by Bailey to approve the final contract with CSRS for \$48,000 to perform a drone flyover to identify obstacles and to produce a flood impact study.
 - Inundation Map: With the data provided by Jacobsen, \$25,000 is needed for ESRI to move forward with the project. The Board unanimously approved a motion by St. Pierre, second by

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Machin to approve \$25,000, under the condition that a time-estimate is provided first.

Commissioner Don Thompson voted nay.

- Other: The Board briefly discussed the status of HB 686. The Bill was heard today in the Natural Resources and Environment Committee with 34 amendments.

9. ARBC Legal Counsel: None

10. Old Business: None

11. New Business: None

12. The meeting was adjourned at 6 pm.

APPROVED:

/s/ Edwin Parker, ARBC President

Date: 5/17/22

/s/ Toni B. Guitrau, Executive Secretary